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TO: Secretary of State

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EMBTEL 242, July 30, 1950.

Today's IZVESTIYA devotes full column to various Paris Tass despatches on Belgian situation headed, "Belgians protest return King Leopold III." Presumably in oblique reference to Leopold's reported (by BBC) willingness to delegate powers to son and to abdicate when latter reaches majority, despatches indicate apprehension over "deal" between Socialists and Christian Socialists "designed undermine popular movement provoked by anti-national policy ruling circles subservient US." IZVESTIYA also carries summary CE SOIR article dealing "treacherous role" of "right socialists" Belgium, and this is only piece Belgian situation also printed PRAVDA.

Clearly Kremlin would be disappointed with any early and peaceful resolution Belgian impasse such as one described BBC. Soviet interests would be well served by situation of turmoil inter alia making possible propaganda claim that anti-Leopold feeling identical with anti-Americanism, anti-NAP, etc. If peaceful solution found Soviet wrath obviously will be directed at Belgian Socialists, who will be accused of further kowtowing to Wall Street.

KIRK

BA:LFG

NOTE: Relayed to Brussels, 8/1/50, 3:45 p.m. HEF

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